(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to ensure that shrimps exported to Japan are free from banned antibiotics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V. K.S. ELANGOVAN) : (a) The Quarantine Authorities of the Japan Health Ministry (JHA) have started random checking of all the imported shrimp consignments of aquaculture origin, including those from India, to ascertain the presence of banned antibiotics, especially Nitrofuran group and its metabolites. Japanese authorities have also decided that aquaculture shrimp consignments of Indian origin exported to Japan may be accompanied by a certificate from a Government of India approved laboratory stating that Nitrofuran or its metabolites are not detected in the product.

(b) To cope up with the similar situation being faced for export of fish & fishery products to countries of the European Union, the Government had banned the use of certain antibiotics in aquaculture and processing for export in July, 2002. MPEDA, Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) and and other Government agencies are striving hard through workshops, media campaigns, etc. to educate the acqua farmers, processors, and others not to use the banned antibiotics and other drugs in the culture and processing of marine products. Government has helped MPEDA to set up laboratories with latest equipments in all coastal States to test the samples of fish & fishery products to the desired levels to ensure that the products exported to various countries, including Japan, are free of contaminants due to microbiological and chemical reasons.

Imposition of non-tariff barriers by developed countries

4367. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that non-tariff barriers imposed by developed countries are creating a lot of problem to the exporters;

(b) if so, whether India contemplate any appropriate steps in the light of the above unfair and non-transparent measures taken by developed countries of the world; and

(c) which are the main developed countries who are imposing non-tariff barriers against India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) There are various procedural requirements, in addition to customs tariffs, imposed by all countries on international trade. Some times these procedural requirements act as barriers and are called non-tariff barriers. Indian exporters face such barriers from time to time in several countries including the developed countries such as the European Union, United States of America and Japan.

The problem arising due to non-tariff barriers are duly taken up with the concerned country bilaterally for their early and mutually satisfactory resolution. The various fora of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) are also used to address these issues.

Industrial units in the country

†4368. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industrial units functioning in the country particularly in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of sick industrial units out of the same and the reasons for their sickness;

(c) whether Government are formulating any scheme to revive such sick industrial units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The total number of Letters of Intent/Direct Industrial Licences issued and Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda (IEMs) field in the country from August, 1991 to March, 2005 are 6,885. Of these 5,402 are from Uttar Pradesh.

(b) According to the information contained in the Report of the Reserve Bank of India on Review of Sick/Weak Industrial Units Financed by Scheduled Commercial Banks, at the end of March 2003 there were 2,999 sick and 397 weak units. Of these, 208 units were in Uttar Pradesh. Reasons for industrial sickness *inter-alia* include internal factors such as

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.